



Broadlands
Equine Therapy & RDA

Safeguarding and Child/ Vulnerable Adult Protection Policy

Appendix 3: Safeguarding Issues Relating to Individual Participant Needs

Participants with Medical Conditions (in charity)

We will ensure that sufficient staff and volunteers are trained to support any participant with a single or multiple medical condition(s). All relevant staff and volunteers will be made aware of the condition to support the participant and be aware of medical needs and risks to the participant. An Individual Healthcare Plan may be put in place to support the participant and their medical needs. This may be supplied by parents, carers or an education establishment.

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

Children and vulnerable adults who have Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND) can have additional vulnerabilities in relation to abuse and neglect.

We will respond to this by:

- Making it common practice to enable disabled children and vulnerable adults to make their wishes and feelings known in respect of their care and treatment.
- Ensuring disabled children and vulnerable adults know how to raise concerns and give them access to a range of adults with whom they can communicate.
- Recognising and utilising key sources of support including staff, volunteers, friends and family members where appropriate.
- Ensuring that guidance on good practice is in place and being followed in relation to working with children and vulnerable adults.

Mental Health

Staff and volunteers tend to see their participants on a regular basis. They know them well and are well placed to spot changes in behaviour that might indicate an emerging problem with the mental health and emotional wellbeing of participants. All staff and volunteers should also be aware that mental health problems can, in some cases, be an indicator that a child has suffered or is at risk of suffering abuse, neglect or exploitation.

The balance between the risk and protective factors is most likely to be disrupted when difficult events happen in participants' lives. These include:

- loss or separation – resulting from death, parental separation, divorce, hospitalisation, loss of friendships (especially in adolescence), family conflict or breakdown that results in the child having to live elsewhere, being taken into care or adopted
- life changes – such as the birth of a sibling, moving house or changing school or during transition from primary to secondary school, or secondary school to sixth form/ college
- traumatic events such as abuse, domestic violence, bullying, violence, accidents, injuries or natural disaster.

When concerns are identified, staff and volunteers will provide opportunities for the child/ vulnerable adult to talk or receive support within the Broadlands environment. Parents/ carers will be informed of the concerns and a shared way to support the child/ vulnerable adult will be discussed.

If staff have a mental health concern about a child/ vulnerable adult that is also a safeguarding concern, they will take immediate action, raising the concern with the DSL/ DDSL in line with our safeguarding procedures.